

Society for the Study of American Women Writers Newsletter

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President's Letter

I'm pleased to report that, as usual, our panels at ALA were both excellent and very well attended. Thanks again to Kristin Jacobson and her committee for a terrific job in setting them up. It was interesting to hear the various discussions on lesser-known women writers. And thanks to all who came, both audience and presenters. It's gratifying proof of the continued importance of our field and our work.

We held a business meeting at the ALA where, in addition to talking about the 2012 conference, several other ideas were generated, including introducing three-year memberships, establishing some awards for various kinds of work on American women writers, and sponsoring some virtual writing groups. Stay tuned to the listserv and the newsletter for more details.

Our main topic of conversation, of course, was our rapidly approaching conference. We're very excited about it and received many excellent suggestions. Please see the official call for papers appearing here, on Facebook, and on the listserv. We hope all of you will consider submitting proposals for what looks to be a great conference and wonderful time in Denver. Our theme is "Citizenship and Belonging," though we welcome submissions on all topics related to American women writers. Remember too that Dorothy Allison will be our keynote speaker. So count on attending the conference to end all conferences! Think about serving on the program committee; we'll be sending out a call for volunteers shortly. Our awesome conference directors, Sarah Robbins and María Sanchez, continue to work tirelessly to get everything set up.

Let me conclude with thanks to Donna Campbell, who not only deals with membership but also organizes the listserv and puts out the newsletter. Without her, we would be hard pressed to maintain this organization, let alone plan the conference.

I wish you all a successful academic year and hope you're able to join us next October in Denver.

-- Deb Clarke

Legacy Notes

SSAWW ADVISORY BOARD

Aliyyah Abdur-Rahman
(2013)
Brandeis Univ.

Kristin Allukian (2013)
University of Florida

Faith Barrett (2011)
Lawrence University

Rita Bode (2011)
Trent University

Leslie Bow (2013)
Univ. of Wisconsin

Christopher Castiglia
(2013)
Penn State University

Betty Booth Donohue
(2011)
Cooweescoowee Dis-
trict, Cherokee Nation

Julia Ehrhardt (2013)
Univ. of Oklahoma

Diane P. Freedman
(2011)
Univ. of New
Hampshire

Theresa Stouth Gaul
(Legacy) Texas
Christian University

Forthcoming in *Legacy* 28.2

A special issue on *Women and Early America*, guest edited by
Tamara Harvey

- ◆ "Women in Early America: Recharting Hemispheric and Atlantic Desire," by Tamara Harvey
- ◆ "Female Bodies and Capitalist Drive: Sansay's *Secret History* in Transoceanic Context," by Michelle Burnham
- ◆ "Taking Possession of the New World: Powerful Female Agency in Early Colonial Accounts of South America," by Rocío Quispe-Agnoli
- ◆ "Hard-Hearted Women: Sentiment and the Scaffold," by Jodi Schorb
- ◆ "Native American Women and Religion in the American Colonies: Textual and Visual Traces of an Imagined Community," by Mónica Díaz
- ◆ "Fulfilling the Name: Catherine Tekakwitha and Marguerite Kanenstenhawi (Eunice Williams)," by Andrew Newman
- ◆ From the Archives: "And the author of wickedness Surely is most to be blamed': The Declaration of Debora Proctor," by Abby Chandler

New *Legacy* Copyright Policies

Effective 15 July 2011, those who submit essays, Profiles and other written materials to *Legacy* should be aware of a change in our policy regarding submissions. Contractual changes instituted by the University of Nebraska Press, which publishes the journal, require us to make these changes.

Henceforth, we will no longer be able to consider any works that have been previously published. Publication, according to our definition of the term, includes print publication as well as electronic publication in any and all forms (for example, a blog, a personal or professional website, a conference website, a social networking site, an online journal, etc.). Essays that duplicate or closely resemble chapters of dissertations that have been uploaded to the web will be excluded as submissions, as will essays that have been published as parts of dissertations available in hard copy from UMI.

Please note that while we recognize that essays are often based on earlier work, we require that the submitted essay must be distinct and distinguishable from the earlier publication (rather than a variation of the same work).

In the cover letter to your submission, please add a couple of sentences verifying that the essay is (a) not available in any on-line form and (b) has not been previously published in any form. We also need your assurance that the essay is not currently in submission to any other journal or press.

Legacy Notes, continued

Legacy Staffing Changes

As consultants, Stacy Alaimo and Brigitte Bailey read and responded to submissions for many years. Their insightful comments guided many of those who submitted essays, and we thank them for their service.

We welcome Laura Korobkin and Cari M. Carpenter as new reader-consultants and recognize their willingness to donate their time to this important work.

As a member of Legacy's editorial board, Sarah Robbins has been a wise and tireless adviser. We wish her all the best during her well-earned sabbatical year. Sarah will return as a consultant/reader in 2013.

Jennifer L. Putzi has graciously agreed to serve a three-year term as a Board member.

As graduate student editorial intern, Lisa M. Thomas has contributed countless hours to editing, fact-checking, copyediting and compiling the Bookshelf listings, as well as handling routine correspondence. Lisa also designed and researched the Portrait Gallery and contributed materially to the on-line index of abstracted articles published in the journal. Lisa has agreed to remain affiliated with the journal and will have the new title of Editors' Assistant.

We welcome Kate Slater, another UCSD graduate student, as this year's editorial intern.

As a reminder, the Bookshelf feature (a bibliographical listing of the most recent publications about American women writers to 1930) is now posted on our website, <http://legacy.ucsd.edu>.

It is updated semiannually, when a new issue of the journal appears.

SSAWW ADVISORY BOARD

Tina Gianquitto (2011)
Colorado School of
Mines

Cherise Pollard (2011)
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Maria Sanchez (2013)
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Angela Sorby (2011)
Marquette Univ.

Nicole Tonkovich
(Legacy) Univ. of
California, San Diego

Jennifer S. Tuttle
(Legacy) Univ. of New
England

Hiroko Uno (2013) Kobe
C. (Japan)

Karen A. Weyler (2011)
Univ. of North Carolina
at Greensboro

Legacy Notes, Continued

Legacy: Special issue, "Women Writing Disability" Guest editor: Michael Davidson

Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers is soliciting papers for a special issue devoted to the intersection of women, women writers, and disability. Rosemarie Garland-Thomson observes that many parallels exist between the "social meanings attributed to female bodies and those assigned to disabled bodies." To this extent it would be hard to imagine early twentieth-century psychoanalysis without "women's diseases" like hysteria or nervous disorders. Female sexuality and reproduction have, historically, been monitored by a male medical and psychoanalytic profession. Building design, fashion, and juridical definitions of identity have reinforced the idea that, as Iris Marion Young says, "women in sexist society are physically handicapped." Concepts of aesthetic perfection and beauty are often figured around idealized (often naked) female bodies for which marked or disabled bodies are considered aberrant. Much western literature is formed around the volatile bodies of the Medusa, the madwoman in the attic, and the consumptive heroine. Feminist and Queer theory have been at the forefront in recognizing the ways that gender and sexual difference have been articulated through the non-traditional, excessive, or abnormal body, making gender /sexuality visible by positing an idealized norm of physical and mental perfection.

This special issue of *Legacy* will feature scholarship on American women writers dealing with issues of embodiment, illness, cognitive disability, deafness, blindness, mobility, dependency, and other related issues. Our hope is to find essays that cover the full range of American cultural production, from the colonial period to WWII and across the Americas broadly defined. "Writing Disability" implies both the representation of disability by women writers as well as the role that disability plays in an author's writing. Topics might include intersections between women and disability through any of the following categories:

- The body of the aesthetic
- Women's work and workplace design
- Reproduction rights and disability
- Eugenics and reform
- Dependency work
- Women and d/Deaf education
- Manifest Destiny and mobility
- The Republican body
- Visibility, staring, stigma
- Immigration, race, and disease
- Communities of disability
- Slavery and structural violence
- Suffragism and disability
- Disability and the family

Deadline: Completed Papers must be submitted by **1 January 2012**. Historical focus may cover all periods prior to 1940; Page limit, 10,000 words (including endnotes and list of works cited) using MLA format. Send hard-copy of papers to Michael Davidson, Literature Department 0410, University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA 92093-0410. Questions pertaining to the issue may be addressed to mdavidson@ucsd.edu.

Legacy Notes, Continued

Legacy Web Designer Wanted

The editors of *Legacy: A Journal of American Women Writers* seek the assistance of an individual committed to enhancing the journal's online presence. Interested parties should possess technological skills in creating modern website design, coding content for display in modern web browsers, programming dynamic text and graphic content repositories, monitoring use of the website, and troubleshooting technical problems in the website. Also required are editing experience, knowledge of the field of U.S. women's writing from the colonial period to the early twentieth century, and the ability to work independently and meet deadlines.

Responsibilities will include designing, maintaining, monitoring, improving, and updating the *Legacy* website <http://legacy.ucsd.edu/>; selecting (in consultation with other editors) materials for publication on the website; editing materials that appear on the website; seeking grant funding opportunities; and carrying out other activities to enhance the journal's web presence.

Individuals at any rank, ranging from advanced graduate students to senior faculty members, are encouraged to apply. Interested parties should be aware that there is no financial support available for taking on such a role; all of *Legacy's* editors and consultants work in a volunteer capacity, although they are encouraged to seek support for their work with *Legacy* from their home institutions.

If interested, please send your c.v. (including the names of at least three references), a statement of your qualifications, and a letter summarizing your interests in the fields covered by *Legacy* to Legacy-editor@ucsd.edu. Review of applications will begin on **1 Sept. 2011** and will continue until the position is filled. Nominations are also welcome.

SSAWW Affiliated Organizations

American Humor Studies Association (AHSA)
 American Women Writers of Color Association for
 the Study of American
 Indian Literatures (ASAIL)
 Association for the Study of Literature and
 Environment (ASLE)
 Carson McCullers Society
 Catharine Maria Sedgwick Society
 Charlotte Perkins Gilman Society
 Children's Literature Society
 Constance Fenimore Woolson Society
 Edith Wharton Society
 Elizabeth Bishop Society
 Ellen Glasgow Society
 Emily Dickinson International Society
 Eudora Welty Society
 Evelyn Scott Society
 Harriet Beecher Stowe Society

James/Susan Fenimore Cooper Society
 Kate Chopin International Society
 Katherine Anne Porter Society
 Louisa May Alcott
 Society
 Margaret Fuller Society
 Nineteenth-Century American Women
 Writers' Study Group
 Nineteenth-Century American Women
 Writers' Research Group (UK)
 Research Society for American Periodicals
 Society for American Jewish Literature
 Society for the History of Authorship,
 Reading, and Publishing (SHARP)
 Society of Early Americanists
 Susan Glaspell Society
 Willa Cather Society

Karen Dandurand

Karen Dandurand, one of the founding editors of *Legacy*, died Monday, September 12, 2011, of cancer. She was associate professor of English at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she had worked since 1986 and had served as the director of that university's Literature and Criticism program.

Professor Dandurand received her Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. Her dissertation, titled "Why Dickinson Did Not Publish," summarizes the direction and themes of much of her subsequent scholarship. In the early 1980s, she discovered the texts of four poems by Dickinson that made clear the poet's support of the Union cause (*American Literature* 56.1 [1984]: 17-27). She also established that Dickinson had published "Nobody knows this little rose" (J. 35) during her lifetime. In recent years, she devoted her studies to the nineteenth-century diarist and adventurous traveler Susan Hale.

A model of feminist scholarship, she was mentor to many, drawing from them their best work through example and through her tireless support. Deborah Ryals, one of her doctoral students, describes her as "a kind and gentle spirit with a true love of literature."

She was a supporter of the Emily Dickinson Museum in Amherst and the Olana Partnership, as well as a member of the Charlotte Perkins Gilman Society and a founding member of the Society for the Study of Rebecca Harding Davis and Her World.

A meticulous researcher, she exemplified our ideals of archival recovery work and opened a venue through which many of us found support for and furtherance of our own scholarship on women. Her interests led her to work with others to pave the way for two foundational initiatives that have guided our research since the mid-1980s.

With two other graduate students at Amherst, Joanne Dobson and Martha Ackmann, she established a journal devoted to research about nineteenth-century women writers, the publication we now know as *Legacy*, the premier journal in US women's literature. Karen remained an integral part of the journal's editorial staff throughout her career.

In the 1990s, she and Sharon M. Harris founded the Society for the Study of American Women Writers. She served as one of its first Vice Presidents and was an active officer in the Society until very recently.

Sharon Harris wrote this tribute for her memorial service: "Few people in our field are as knowledgeable about the broad field of U.S. women writers as was Karen. Meticulous in her own scholarship, she also aided generations of young scholars in the field, both as a teacher and as an editor. Karen never liked the limelight; but she was always there, working steadily to promote women's writings. She began her career with a love of Emily Dickinson, but she also loved lesser-known writers such as the diarist Susan Hale. She appreciated Hale's sense of humor and her audacious belief in her right as a woman to live her life as she chose. This was true of Karen, too. She followed her own drummer, and those of us who came to know her well always appreciated the integrity of her individual path within the profession."

These lines from Emily Dickinson seem especially appropriate as a memorial to Karen

What is--"Paradise"-- /

Who live there--

...

Do they know that this is "Amherst"--

And that I--am coming--too--

--Nicole Tonkovich

SSAWW Tri-annual Conference Call for Papers

SSAWW Tri-annual Conference

October 10-13, 2012; Westin Tabor Center, Denver, Colorado
Call for Proposals

Key dates:

Monday, February 6, 2012: Proposals due to ssawwconf@gmail.com; see next page for directions.

May 2012: Acceptance notifications sent

June 30, 2012: Program schedule announced

Note: Presenters must be members of SSAWW by the “early/discounted” date for conference registration in the fall of 2012.

Participants presenting one formal academic paper may also appear on the program in additional ways (e.g., as a respondent, on a roundtable, or in a “professionalization” session.)

Theme: Citizenship and Belonging

For the fall 2012 Conference of the Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW), we are issuing a special invitation for session and paper proposals linked to the theme of “Citizenship and Belonging.” **As in the past, the conference organizers will welcome proposals on any topic related to the study of American women writers, broadly conceived.** However, we are also eager to capitalize on the conference opportunity to promote conversations—both “in the moment” and sustained—around a shared theme.

Why “Citizenship and Belonging”?

Historically speaking, these have been concerns of American women authors from their earliest writings, published and unpublished, and they remain concerns today. Long before the 1848 Declaration of Sentiments, women writers raised questions about how they could participate in the leadership of new American communities; similarly, contemporary women respond to the day’s political events and social trends in many forms of the written word. Just as women of all backgrounds considered the parameters of “Americanness”—its inherence or its acquisition, its stability or fluidity, its necessity or its superfluity—their contemporary counterparts are using both old-fashioned forms and cutting-edge technologies to reimagine the United States and its people for the 21st century. Whether one thinks of Harriet Jacobs pondering her own “sale” in 19th-century New York, Jhumpa Lahiri imagining connections across seas and generations in her short fiction, or young writers seizing the potential of the internet and social media to create their own publishing worlds, women writers have always, and perhaps always will, wrestle with what it means to belong.

Citizenship—how to claim it, how best to exercise it, and where its boundaries lie—is at the heart of much women’s writing. Citizenship can be constructed in many ways, both legally and culturally, and can be explored in terms of race, class, ethnicity, family, sexuality, economics, religion, place, and region—in short, from multiple perspectives and through multiple lenses. It can also be investigated as a question of form and genre: what kinds of writing “belong,” and to what realms or entities do they claim entry?

We hope our fall 2012 conference will provide an array of opportunities for examining these interrelated themes of “Citizenship and Belonging,” even as we continue to honor the many other topics and organizing principles that have made our field so dynamic. So, as we build a strand of theme-related sessions, we encourage SSAWW members to consider these two terms—citizenship and belonging—either together, in dialogue with each other, or individually, as productive lenses for exploring the heritage, current work, and future promise of American women writers.

SSAWW Conference Proposal Submission Form

Directions for Completing and Submitting Your Proposal

Note: Please use TIMES NEW ROMAN 12 POINT for all your information. Also, due to the increasing cost of AV equipment in conference settings, we urge all presenters to use alternative approaches such as handouts. If AV is essential to your presentation, you need to include a note to that effect at the end of the proposal.

If you need any other type of special accommodations in the room where your session is scheduled, provide that request with your proposal as well.

I. For a complete session (roundtable, panel, or alternative format such as mini-workshop), create a word file with the information listed below provided in the order requested.

Name of session as it should appear in the program:

Session chair's name and institutional affiliation: _____

Name of presenter #1: _____

Institutional affiliation: _____

Title of presentation: _____

Name of presenter #2: _____

Institutional affiliation: _____

Title of presentation: _____

Name of presenter #3: _____

Institutional affiliation: _____

Title of presentation: _____

[Repeat data listed above for any additional presenters.]

Provide a brief paragraph describing the content and goals of the session as a whole. Then, in order of anticipated presentation, give a several-sentence description of each paper/element in the session. Provide a paragraph-length professional biography of each presenter. Give the email address for the person who should be notified about the results of proposal review.

II. For a single paper (which conference planners would connect to other appropriate submissions to form a full session)

Your name: _____

Institutional affiliation: _____

Title of presentation: _____

Provide a brief paragraph describing the content or your proposed presentation and a paragraph-length professional biography. List the email address to be used for notification.

Email your proposal in a single attachment to ssaww-conf@gmail.com no later than February 6, 2012. Please make sure your file name includes your last name—e.g., Smith-ssaww2012.

Questions about the conference? Contact Sarah Robbins (s.robbs@tcu.edu) or Maria Sanchez (mcsanche@uncg.edu), conference co-chairs, or Deb Clarke, SSAWW President (Deborah.Clarke@asu.edu). We hope to see you in Denver in October, 2012.

Grants, Fellowships, and Awards

EDIS Scholar in Amherst, 2012

The Emily Dickinson International Society (EDIS) invites applications for the 2012 Scholar in Amherst Program. The scholarship is designed to support research on Emily Dickinson at institutions such as the Special Collections of the Frost Library of Amherst College, the Jones Public Library, the Mount Holyoke College Archives, the Smith College Special Collections, the Dickinson Homestead, the Evergreens, and the Amherst Historical Society. The award of \$2,000 is to be used for expenses related to that research such as travel, accommodations, a rental car, or reproduction fees. Upon completion of research in Amherst, recipients will write a letter to the EDIS Board outlining what they achieved with EDIS support, and we appreciate acknowledgment in any resulting publications. A minimum stay of one week in Amherst is required; recipients may also use the fellowship to initiate a lengthier stay in the area. Preference will be given to persons with completed PhDs who are in the early stages of their careers. To apply for the 2012 Scholar in Amherst Award, please submit a cv, a letter of introduction (written by the applicant), a two-page project proposal including preliminary budget and brief bibliography, by **January 15, 2012** to Jed Deppman at jdeppman@oberlin.edu. Letters of recommendation are not accepted as part of the application packet. Applications will be acknowledged upon receipt and applicants notified of final decisions by March 1. For more information, see www.emilydickinsoninternationalsociety.org

EDIS Graduate Student Fellowship, 2012

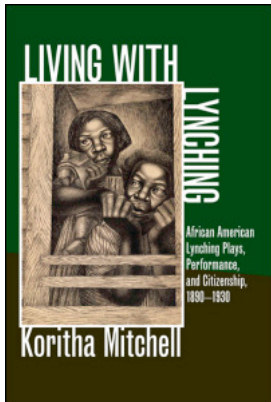
The Emily Dickinson International Society (EDIS) announces a fellowship award of \$1,000 in support of graduate student scholarship on Emily Dickinson. The award may be used to fund travel to collections or conferences, to support book purchases, or for other research expenses (such as reproduction costs) necessary to the project. Preference will be given to applicants enrolled in doctoral programs and engaged in the writing of dissertations or other major projects directed toward publication. Applicants should be aware that a dissertation project need not be focused solely on Dickinson; however, a substantial part of the work should significantly engage Dickinson's work. To apply, please send a cv, a project description, the names and contact information of two references, and a dissertation prospectus or other relevant writing sample of no more than 25 pages to Jed Deppman at jdeppman@oberlin.edu. Applications are due by **January 15, 2012**. Letters of recommendation are not accepted as part of the application packet. Applications will be acknowledged upon receipt and applicants notified of final decisions by March 1. For more information, see www.emilydickinsoninternationalsociety.org

Maine Women Writers Collection Research Support Grant Program

Each fall, the Maine Women Writers Collection solicits applications for its Research Support Grant Program, intended for faculty members, independent researchers, and graduate students at the dissertation stage who are actively pursuing research that requires, or would benefit from, access to the holdings of the Maine Women Writers Collection. MWWC Research Support Grants range between \$250 and \$1000, and may be used for transportation, housing, and research-related expenses.

Deadline for 2011-12 applications: **December 2, 2011**. For more information, visit <http://www.une.edu/mwwc/research/grants.cfm>.

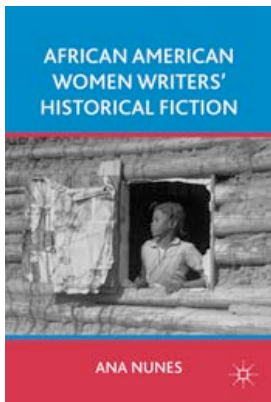
New Books



Koritha Mitchell, *Living with Lynching African American Lynching Plays, Performance, and Citizenship, 1890-1930*

Living with Lynching: African American Lynching Plays, Performance, and Citizenship, 1890-1930 demonstrates that popular lynching plays were mechanisms through which African American communities survived actual and photographic mob violence. Koritha Mitchell shows that African Americans performed and read the scripts in community settings to certify to each other that lynch victims were not the isolated brutes that dominant discourses made them out to be. Instead, the play scripts often described victims as honorable heads of household being torn from model domestic units by white violence.

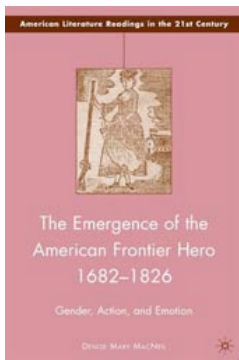
<http://www.press.uillinois.edu/books/catalog/32xhk5kq9780252036491.html>



Ana Nunes, *African American Women Writers' Historical Fiction*

This volume explores African American historical fiction written by women in the last four decades of the twentieth century. Comprehensive in scope, this book refers to over thirty authors whose work has contributed to the tradition, from Margaret Walker to Sherley Anne Williams to Toni Morrison. Ana Nunes's approach to the text emphasizes the narrative and thematic achievements of individual novels against the backdrop of the main trends and developments of the contemporary African American historical novel,

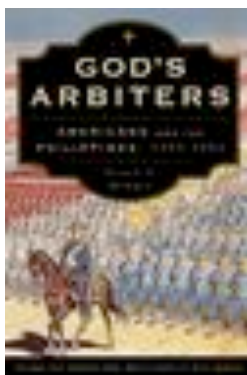
<http://us.macmillan.com/africanamericanwomenwritershistoricalfiction/AnaNunes>



Denise MacNeil, *The Emergence of the American Frontier Hero*

The Emergence of the American Frontier Hero looks at the earliest American publications, demonstrating that the heroic American character was first a woman and a mother, strongly influenced by Native American culture, before that heroic figure transformed into the hyper-male character we know today. The book provides an in-depth picture of human behavior and interactions within the American wilderness.

<http://us.macmillan.com/theemergenceoftheamericanfrontierhero16821826/DeniseMacNeil>



Susan K. Harris, *God's Arbiters: Americans and the Philippines, 1898-1902*

When the U.S. liberated the Philippines from Spanish rule in 1898, the exploit was hailed at home as a great moral victory, an instance of Uncle Sam freeing an oppressed country from colonial tyranny. Mining letters, speeches, textbooks, poems, political cartoons and other sources, Susan K. Harris examines the role of religious rhetoric and racial biases in the battle over annexation. She offers a provocative reading both of the debates' religious framework and of the evolution of Christian national identity within the U.S. Written with verve and animated by a wide range of archival research, *God's Arbiters* reveals the roots of current debates over textbook content, evangelical politics, and American exceptionalism.

<http://www.oup.com/us/catalog/general/subject/LiteratureEnglish/AmericanLiterature/19thC/?view=usa&ci=9780199740109>

New Books

Mary Chapman and Angela Mills, ed. and introd. *Treacherous Texts: An Anthology of U.S. Suffrage Literature, 1846-1946*

"This exciting anthology has no competitors. With an impressive historical range and a great diversity of primary documents and useful reference materials, *Treacherous Texts* offers an original contribution to scholarship and an important classroom teaching tool."

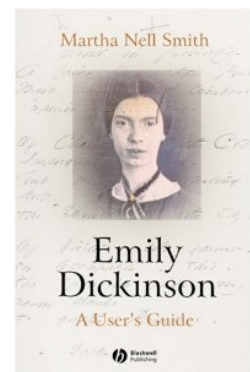
—Ann Ardis, University of Delaware

http://rutgerspress.rutgers.edu/acatalog/treacherous_texts.html



Martha Nell Smith, *Emily Dickinson: A User's Guide*. Wiley-Blackwell Publishers, forthcoming Spring 2012.

An introduction to her lives and writings, *Emily Dickinson, A User's Guide* is a critical reflection about the status and reach of the author and writer Emily Dickinson, the state of Dickinson studies, and some of the broader implications of each for American literature, culture, and education, for the importance and meaning of poetry to a wide variety of audiences. No other introduction to Emily Dickinson exposes readers to deep engagements with the three major digital resources on her writings and her life, and no other book on Dickinson reads her in manuscript, in the many print editions produced since her death in 1886, and in the digital productions of her work produced since 1994. No other book features the new biographical and textual discoveries that have just come to light in 2011. <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Emily-Dickinson-Blackwell-Introductions-Literature/dp/1405147202>



Debra Brenegan, *Shame the Devil: A Novel*

Shame the Devil tells the remarkable and true story of Fanny Fern (the pen name of Sara Payson Willis), one of the most successful, influential, and popular writers of the nineteenth century. Her weekly editorials in the pages of the New York Ledger over a period of about twenty years chronicled the myriad controversies of her era and demonstrated her firm belief in the motto, "Speak the truth, and shame the devil." Through the story of Fern and her contemporaries, including Walt Whitman, Catharine Beecher, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Harriet Jacobs, and Nathaniel Hawthorne,

<http://www.sunypress.edu/p-5268-shame-the-devil.aspx>



Orit Rabkin, introd. *Pulling It All Together: Diary by One of America's First Jewish Women Federal Judges, Judge Anne F. Schlezinger*.

Anne Schlezinger's diary gives a personal day-by-day narrative of the building of the American Jewish professional class of the Great Generation. Like many others of that generation, she lived through the sacrifices of the Depression and World War II and had a special focus on achievement in her own life. This detailed narrative gives us day by day accounting of life as she told it.

<http://www.gaonbooks.com/A.Schlezinger.html>



Calls for Papers

SSAWW Panels at ALA 2012 (May 24-27, San Francisco, CA) 3 Jan Deadline

Society for the Study of American Women Writers contact email: kristinjjacobson@gmail.com

Call for Papers: Society for the Study of American Women Writers (ALA 2012, San Francisco, CA, May 24-27)

The Society for the Study of American Women Writers will host two panels at the American Literature Association Conference (May 24-27, San Francisco, CA). The panel themes anticipate our fall 2012 conference in Denver, "Citizenship and Belonging." Historically speaking, these have been concerns of American women authors from their earliest writings, published and unpublished, and they remain concerns today. Both panels are open to scholarship focused on American women writers from any time period and writing in any genre.

Panel 1: American Women Writers and Citizenship. Citizenship--how to claim it, how best to exercise it, and where its boundaries lie--is at the heart of much American women's writing. Citizenship can be constructed in many ways, both legally and culturally, and can be explored in terms of race, class, ethnicity, family sexuality, economics, religion, place, and region--in short, from multiple perspectives and through multiple lenses. It can also be investigated as a question of form and genre: what kinds of writing "belong," and to what realms or entities do they claim entry?

Panel 2: American Women Writers and Belonging. Long before the 1848 Declarations of Sentiments, women writers raised questions about how they could participate in the leadership of new American communities; similarly, contemporary women respond to the day's political events and social trends in many forms of the written word. Just as women of all backgrounds considered the parameters of "Americanness"--its inherence or its acquisition, its stability or fluidity, its necessity or its superfluity--their contemporary counterparts are using both old-fashioned forms and cutting-edge technologies to reimagine the United States and its people for the 21st century. Whether one thinks of Harriet Jacobs pondering her own "sale" in 19th-century New York, Jhumpa Lahiri imagining connections across seas and generations in her short fiction, or young writers seizing the potential of the internet and social media to create their own publishing worlds, women writers have always, and perhaps always will, wrestle with what it means to belong.

Please submit to Kristin Jacobson (kristinjjacobson@gmail.com) by Jan. 3, 2012, a 250-500 word abstract (note which panel your proposal best fits) and a brief CV (no more than 2-pages) that includes rank/status (e.g. ABD or Associate Professor, etc.), institutional affiliation (independent scholars are welcome to submit proposals), publications, and conference presentations. Confirmation of receipt of your proposal will be sent to you within two business days.

All proposals should be both pasted into the text of the email and included as attachments (preferably as a single PDF document). While you do not need to be a SSAWW member to apply for the panel, presenters must be or become SSAWW members to participate in a SSAWW sponsored panel.

Calls for Papers

For the full text of calls for papers, visit <http://www.ssaww.org>.

CFP: Constance Fenimore Woolson Society at SSAWW 2012. The Constance Fenimore Woolson Society invites paper proposals for a panel at the Society for the Study of American Women Writers Tri-Annual Conference in Denver, Co, Oct. 10-13, 2012. Papers relating Woolson to the SSAWW "Citizenship & Belonging" conference theme are encouraged, but all topics will be considered, especially those connecting Woolson to other 19th-c women writers or forging new directions in Woolson studies. Please send proposals by **January 15** to Kris Comment at kristin.comment@gmail.com.

CFP: Performing Transformations. I will be chairing a panel "Crossing and Mixing Fields: Expositions and Connections" at the conference, Performing Transformations, Tangier 2012. Please send me proposals by **December 1**: (margiekanter@gmail.com) For information on the conference please go to: <http://icpsmorocco.org/>.

CFP: Teaching American Literature: A Journal of Theory and Practice. <http://www.cpcc.edu/taltp> is looking for articles for its Fall 2011 issue. The deadline is **November 31**. We are also looking for manuscript reviewers. Please send inquiries and articles to Patricia.Bostian@cpcc.edu.

CFP: C19: The Society of Nineteenth-Century Americanists seeks paper and panel submissions to its second biennial conference, which will take place April 12-15, 2012 at the historic Berkeley City Club and at the beautiful University of California, Berkeley campus.

All submissions must be submitted by email to C19-2012@ucsc.edu. Use as a subject line in your email: Session proposal OR Paper proposal / [Last name and first initial of person submitting] (Example: Paper proposal / López S). Please assist us by attaching a single document in .PDF, .DOC, or .DOCX format with the following information in exactly the order given here:

- Paper or session title
- Name, institutional affiliation, discipline, position or title, and essential contact information of presenter including email address and phone number (for sessions: give for organizer first, then each presenter)
- Abstract of the rationale and content of each paper or session: up to 250 words for an individual submission; 500 words for a panel, giving specifics about what each member will contribute
- Brief (2-3 sentence) scholarly biography of the panelist (for sessions: of organizer and each panelist)
- For sessions: Describe the format of the panel and give indication of any audiovisual needs or special accommodations anticipated

Proposals are due by **October 1, 2011**. Receipt of submissions will be acknowledged within one week. Notifications regarding acceptance will be made on or before December 3rd, 2011. Queries may also be addressed to C19-2012@ucsc.edu.

For more information about C19, please see our website: <http://c19americanists.org>

Calls for Papers

CFP: *Cather Studies 10: Willa Cather and the Nineteenth Century*

We invite submissions for *Cather Studies 10*, a peer-reviewed volume to be published by the University of Nebraska Press. The theme for the volume will be "Willa Cather and the Nineteenth Century." We seek essays, written from a broad array of critical and theoretical perspectives, that explore the legacy of nineteenth-century culture in Cather's life and work; we hope for a volume that will illuminate Cather's development and accomplishment as a writer and offer insights into the complex cultural transformations that accompanied the transition from a Victorian to a modernist America.

Please submit essays of no more than 7,500 words (including notes and works cited), using the MLA system of citation by **October 15, 2011**. Submissions should be directed to Richard Millington, Department of English, Smith College, Northampton, MA 01063. Electronic submissions via email (to catherstudiescfp@gmail.com) are encouraged. All submissions will be acknowledged.

CFP: Essay Collection: *Teaching Tainted Lit: Popular American Fiction and the Perils and Pleasures of the Classroom*.

Essay contributions are sought for a volume entitled *Teaching Tainted Lit: Popular American Fiction and the Perils and Pleasures of the Classroom*, to be edited by Janet G. Casey. Taking as its premise the idea that popular fiction has secured a solid position in higher education classrooms, this collection seeks to explore its pedagogical implications. Possible topics may include: unusual or insightful uses of the popular in the context of college English; historical or contemporary struggles over the teaching of popular texts; the politics and intersections of popularity and canonicity as they pertain to the classroom; anxieties and pleasures (on the parts of students and/or teachers) located in reading the popular; differences in attitudes about studying historical and contemporary popular texts; relations between teaching the popular and the perceived crisis in the humanities; teaching the American popular outside the U.S.; issues of publication and dissemination that affect teaching (e.g., working with magazines; problems associated with out-of-print materials). Essays that focus on a particular text and its pedagogical ramifications are also welcome, especially if they put broader questions into play. Personal/anecdotal postures invited. Please send a 300-word abstract and cv to jcasey@skidmore.edu by **15 Jan. 2012**. Invited essays will be due in late 2012.

CFP: Louisa May Alcott and Literary Theory at ALA 2012

The Louisa May Alcott Society is sponsoring a panel on literary theory for the 2012 American Literature Association Conference (San Francisco, May 24-27, 2012).

This session seeks proposals that bring together work in theory with interpretation of Alcott's career and writings. Marxist, psychoanalytic, hermeneutical, feminist, and formalist papers are welcome, as are Deleuzian, queer theoretical, post-humanist, and other recent theoretical perspectives. The panel is open to a diverse range of approaches. (See <http://www.ssaaww.org> for full list.) Please send 200-300-word abstracts electronically to Gregory Eiselein at eiselei@ksu.edu. The deadline for proposals is Friday, **January 20, 2012**. Early submissions welcome.

News from Regional Study Groups

Mid-Atlantic Region American Women Writers Study Group

Fall Meeting: October 15, 2011, Alexandria and Arlington, VA
Harriet Jacobs in Alexandria

Our next meeting will focus on Harriet Jacobs' writing about her work with former slaves in Alexandria, Virginia, during the American Civil War. We'll have a walking tour of sites connected with Jacobs and the Civil War in the morning in Alexandria, VA, then meet for lunch and discussion in the afternoon in Arlington, VA (a short subway ride away). Discussion will be led by Cathy Saunders of George Mason University. Preliminary information is available at <https://ssawwma.pbworks.com/w/page/37584644/Fall%202011%20--%20Jacobs%20in%20Alexandria>. We'll add more details and confirm times as the meeting date approaches. In the meantime, if you have any questions, please email [Cathy Saunders](mailto:Cathy.Saunders).

SSAWW on Facebook and Twitter

The Maine Women Writers Collection now has a Facebook page; you can also follow us on Twitter. Please consider becoming a fan and following our tweets.

<<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Portland-ME/Maine-Women-Writers-Collection/1412330225526>>

<<http://twitter.com/MEWomenWriters>>

SSAWW invites you to become a fan of our new Facebook page. Facebook homepage: <www.facebook.com>.

In Facebook, simply search for "Society for the Study of American Women Writers" or use this link <<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Society-for-the-Study-of-American-Women-Writers/324215233870>> to find us.

You will need to create a Facebook account, if you do not already have one. (Facebook is a free social networking site.)

—Kristin Jacobson

SSAWW Newsletter

The SSAWW Newsletter is published twice a year, Spring and Fall. The Newsletter is distributed as a benefit of membership to SSAWW members.

Back issues are available at the SSAWW site.

The calls for papers, news from regional study groups, announcements of new books, and other information in this edition of the SSAWW Newsletter can also be found on our web site, <http://www.ssaww.org>.

Please send all announcements for the web site and the newsletter directly to Donna Campbell at <ssaww.web@gmail.com>.

For information on membership, contact Karen Weyler, <kaweyler@uncg.edu>.

Organizations interested in affiliation with SSAWW should contact Deborah Clarke <Deborah.Clarke@asu.edu>.

Deadlines for submissions for the SSAWW Newsletter:

Fall Issue: September 15

Spring Issue: March 15